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SPECIFICATION

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MEDICINAL COMPOSITIONS FOR PREVENTING OR TREATING VIRAL
MYOCARDITIS

This application is a 371 of PCT/JP00/04280 filed June 28, 2000.
Technical Field

5 The present invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition for the prophylaxis and treatment of viral myocarditis or viral diseases induced by viral myocarditis, which composition comprises 2-amino-2-(2-(4-octylphenyl)-ethyl)propane-1,3-diol or a pharmacologically acceptable salt
10 thereof as an active ingredient. More particularly, the present invention relates to a pharmaceutical composition for the amelioration and prophylaxis of viral cytotoxicity. The present invention also relates to a method for the prophylaxis or treatment of viral myocarditis or viral diseases induced by
15 viral myocarditis, which method comprises administering 2-amino-2-(2-(4-octylphenyl)ethyl)propane-1,3-diol or a pharmacologically acceptable salt thereof. The present invention further relates to use of 2-amino-2-(2-(4-octylphenyl)ethyl)propane-1,3-diol or a pharmacologically
20 acceptable salt thereof for the production of a pharmaceutical agent for the prophylaxis and treatment of viral myocarditis or viral diseases induced by viral myocarditis.

Background Art

Conventionally, viral diseases have been mainly
25 prevented by the use of virus vaccines. However, vaccines are made specifically for individual viruses and are effective only for such individual viruses. There are numerous kinds of viruses, whereas vaccines are currently put to use against a very limited number of viruses. Moreover, viruses often
30 include many mutant strains, but a vaccine effective against one virus often may not be so against a different virus of the same kind. In addition, it is extremely difficult to develop many vaccines associated with fewer side effects.

On the other hand, various antiviral agents (acyclovir,